

Dear MDSA member:

We are looking for a few volunteers who are willing to help teach little kids in Kingston to swim in weekend classes at the Kingston Y. We'd also like to try to set up a program for one-to-one tutoring on how to even swim, or swim better, for teenagers.

The goal is to "drown-proof" kids as much as possible. And, this meshes with the MDSA goal to diversify our membership, a discussion started last summer. In practice this means reaching out to a non-white population of potential swimmers, and to start connecting a few of them to swimming learning opportunities locally. The importance of this was brought out vividly a year ago after a star athlete at Kingston HS drowned in the Rondout Creek in High Falls because he didn't know how to swim, nor could his buddies save him.

To volunteer for the Kingston Y program on Saturdays or Sundays please contact the director of the swimming lessons and the pool at the Y, Naisha Scott, 338-3810 extension 114. And, let us know whatever transpires. Thanks for becoming involved in a very important activity.

In addition to volunteering at the Kingston Y, perhaps all MDSA members could keep in mind our goal for a diverse membership when inviting good swimmers to join MDSA.

Many of us learned of our swim club via a grapevine of friends and relatives. Not every good swimmer has access to that grapevine. **So, folks, heads up and stay alert for an opportunity for each of us to broaden the composition of our swim club.**

Thank you,
Judy Mage, Stephanie Bludau Tor, Kristine Logan,
Co-coordinators